

PROJECT TITLE

Empire Interchange Improvements
EA 133500, PPNO 0151E

ITIP NEED: \$ 13.308 Million (MTA did not recommend match in 2001 CFP)

Insert Location Map Below:



Project Location: Route 5 at Empire Ave in the City of Burbank

Co/Rte/KP/PM: LA/5/47.6-49.9KP/30.6-31.2 PM

Project Description: The project will extend Empire Avenue beneath I-5.

Project Scope: Modify Interchange

Engineer's Estimate: \$111.854 Million
Existing Funding: IIP: \$ 11.744 Million
RIP: \$ 13.850 Million
Local: \$ 19.251 Million

Future Funding Need: \$67.109 Million

Project Schedule: FY 2006/07

PROJECT INFORMATION

Purpose & Need for the Project:

Project Need:

The concept of an Empire Avenue Interchange is to connect Empire Avenue to San Fernando Blvd. And complete the existing diamond interchange at San Fernando Blvd. Empire Ave would have access to I-5 and the Burbank CBD.

Project Purpose:

The Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport serves a large regional population and its efficiency hinges on an integrated and efficient inter-modal transportation system, of which the proposed Empire Avenue is an essential link. The existing Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport access route to and from Glendale and Pasadena is very limited and lack of capacities and directness. Current access route crosses southbound San Fernando Blvd is very easy to miss and often causes severe traffic delay. In comparison, Empire Avenue is a four-lane roadway through an industrial/commercial area and with the proposed interchange can make freeway access direct, more efficient and reduce impacts on local residential neighborhoods.

The redevelopment project at former Lockheed's B-1 site will include two million square feet of floor area. The

success of this project will help bring significant economic growth to the Cities of Burbank and Glendale and provide greater regional benefit for Southern California and the state. Direct access to and from I-5 is necessary to support the proposed redevelopment. Empire Avenue currently terminates at Victor Place with no direct access to I-5 or the Burbank Central Business District (CBD). Without the proposed project, traffic from this proposed redevelopment must use West Burbank Blvd to the south or Buena Vista Street to the north for access and circulation, which will make the location less desirable and cause significant delay to existing trips by forcing utilization of already congested local streets.

The project is included in the City of Burbank's Capital Improvement Program and Draft Transportation Element Update and adopted in City of Burbank's Transportation Element in 1999. In addition, the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority identified the need to improve access to I-5 at Empire Avenue through the EIR/EIS for the proposed new airport passenger terminal.